

# NEWS RELEASE



**STATE OF ALABAMA**  
**Department of Industrial**  
**Relations**  
**News For Immediate Release**  
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## **Displaced Airline-Related Workers to Receive Extended Benefits**

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, May 1, 2003 . . . . A new law passed by Congress and signed by the President provides special temporary extended unemployment compensation benefits for displaced airline-related workers.

For the weeks beginning after April 16, 2003, the program provides up to 65 weeks of benefits to certain unemployed workers. "This would include 26 weeks of regular unemployment compensation benefits and up to 39 weeks of benefits under the special program," says Phyllis Kennedy, director of the Alabama Department of Industrial Relations.

To qualify for the program, individuals must have been employed with an air carrier, employed at an airport facility, or employed by a producer or supplier of products or services directly related to an air carrier. Qualifying individuals must have been laid off from such employment on or after September 11, 2001. The layoff must be due to reductions in airline or airline-related services as a result of the terrorist actions of that date, or related to airport closures or security measures, or related to the conflict with Iraq.

Potentially eligible claimants will be notified by the Alabama Department of Industrial Relations if those individuals received regular unemployment compensation benefits from the State of Alabama. Applications for the special program will be accepted through the week ending December 27, 2003.

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Industrial Relations is an umbrella organization of State government which administers: the State Employment Service, Unemployment Insurance, Workers' Compensation, and Labor Market Information. Smaller programs also administered include Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation, Mine Safety and Inspection, and Surface Mining of Non-Fuel Minerals. For more information on DIR visit the Web site: [www.dir.state.al.us](http://www.dir.state.al.us).